

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...if the bill comes to the floor, that it will eat up more time than any other bill than we've probably dealt with this session, because the fight will be on as to whether or not it's one million, five million, ten million, or twenty million that is the proper dollar figure. Think back to the bill on the unemployment and workmen's comp. I pulled it off the calendar, it was mine, because I wanted to sit down with the other side and say, look, let's discuss this so we don't eat up floor debate, we don't eat up time on this issue. Let's try to come to terms and then come back to the floor and deal with it, and if we have to duke it out at some point, let's do that. That was fully three weeks ago. It's not back in front of us yet because we're not done, we've barely started that process. But here we're bringing a bill from committee that the committee killed. I think that makes a bad precedent here on the floor in the 35th day. I would urge the body...

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.

SENATOR HALL: ...to vote no.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Hall. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I would also like to discourage the bill from coming to the floor of the Legislature. I know it's a difficult issue, but I think you really have to begin back at the basics on this particular issue and remind yourself of what tort law is all about. And when you're back in law school and when you're in the classic tort class, they teach you different elements of tort law. And it starts out with the idea that there needs to be a causal connection between the event that happened and then it goes on to indicate that in each and every case there has to be a duty, somebody has to have a duty. And then it goes on to explain that beyond duty, in order to recover, there has to be some failure to perform that duty, some negligence, somebody has to have done something wrong. And then beyond that, finally, you have to prove what the damages are and what the fair amount of compensation should be. And it seems to me that that system established over hundreds and hundreds of years is an extremely fair system, an extremely fair statement of how we should treat our fellow man. And it seems to me a very bad example for the